

COMMUNICATIONS TOWER REQUEST REQUIRED STATEMENT OF WORK

In order to have a tower project reviewed and minimize the time associated with the approval process, the following information, along with an Environmental Assessment (EA), must be submitted to NEMA (information can be typed into this document):

Cost of Project: \$130,000

Sub-grantee Name: Region 26 Emergency Management

Point of Contact Information:

Name: Alma Beland

Address: PO Box B, Taylor, NE 68879

Phone number: (308) 942-3179

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Email address: region26@cornhusker.net

Location of the project (street address, city and state or latitude and longitude)

Greeley County Nebraska / N41.63353 degrees W-098.54031 degrees

Description of the project, including:

- Dimensions/acreage/square footage of structure and/or land affected, in particular note height of communications towers: 2ft across each face of the tower and 10ft x 16ft for equipment structure, tower height is 300ft, approximate land affected is 2 acres.
- Extent and depth of ground disturbance for new construction and structure modification, including laying of utility lines, installing fencing and light post, etc.: Depth of ground for tower is 5ft deep for the center pad, anchor points will be 10ft deep. Fence posts will be approximately 2ft deep.
- Special equipment that will be used, staging areas, and access roads, etc.: 125 ton crane as well as earth moving equipment to build road.
- Year the existing facility was built, if applicable. Not applicable

Elements of the project including:

- Associated ground disturbance work: No other ground work other than what was mentioned above.
- Special equipment that will be used: Only equipment that was mentioned above for general construction plus the 125 ton crane.
- Extent of the modification of the structure: Not applicable

Information about resources in the vicinity of the project, including:

- Water bodies (rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands, etc.): There are no bodies of water in the vicinity of the project site that would be affected. According to NRD as long as the construction will not intersect the water-bearing formation it would not affect the aquifer. The construction will not be an issue as the deepest it will go is approximately 10 ft.

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- Historic resources (historic districts, buildings, etc.): Nebraska Historical Society states that there is no recorded historic resources for this project site.
- Special areas (forests, wildlife refuge, reserves, etc.); None reported by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Fish and Wildlife Service
- Floodplains: Floodplains are not available due to the county opted out of having them done after doing a preliminary report. These reports are unavailable. The surveyor stated that there would not be a problem of flooding at the project site.

Large ground disturbing projects and controversial projects should include information regarding alternatives that have been considered and evaluated for the project.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance Checklist

The National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§4321-4370d (NEPA) requires, among other things, that Federal agencies consider the environmental impacts of any major Federal action. In order to implement NEPA and its associated regulations, G&T requires grantees, pursuant to the assurances related to G&T grant programs, to submit responses to the following questions regarding proposed construction projects. Grantees are required to submit a brief explanation supporting each response of “yes” or “no”. Grantees that will undertake multiple construction projects shall submit separate responses for each project, and should consider the cumulative impact of interrelated projects.

Federal agencies may establish categories of actions that, based on experience, do not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the human environment and, therefore, can be excluded from NEPA requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement. DHS has adopted certain such Categorical Exclusions in DHS Management Directive 5100.1. These Categorical Exclusions, however, only apply when the entire action fits within the exclusion, the action has not been segmented (i.e., a smaller part of a larger action), and there are no extraordinary circumstances with the potential for significant impacts relating to the proposed action. The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect information from which a decision can be made whether application of a categorical exclusion is appropriate and whether further environmental analysis is required.

Grantees wishing to spend G&T funding for construction projects must contact their Preparedness Officer and submit a request for approval. Each Preparedness Officer will coordinate with G&T NEPA Compliance staff to process each request. Grantees will be required to complete the attached checklist and submit to G&T for approval prior to commencing any construction projects. If, in the course of responding to the questions, a grantee concludes that an Environmental Assessment (“EA”) under NEPA may be required for the proposed project, the grantee should submit the EA in conjunction with the responses to the questions, or as soon thereafter as possible. G&T will not approve construction projects until the NEPA compliance has been completed. G&T may independently conclude, based on its review of the responses to the questions, that an EA is required and will contact the grantee to notify them of that requirement.

Requirements on the contents of an EA can be found in regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) at 40 C.F.R. Part 1508 (and may be found on the web at http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/reggs/ceq/toc_ceq.htm). Note that 40 C.F.R. §1508.9 indicates that the EA is a concise document. It is G&T’s intention to adhere strongly to this instruction and to require only enough analysis to accomplish the objectives specified by the regulation.

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National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance Checklist**

Grantee: Region 26

Project Description: Public Safety Communications Tower Project – Greeley County

Question	Yes	No
1. Is the project likely to have a significant impact on a district, site, highway, structure, or object that is listed in or eligible for listing in the National Registry of Historic Places, affects a historic or cultural resource or traditional and sacred sites, or the loss or destruction of a significant scientific, cultural, or historic resource?		X
<u>Explanation for Question 1:</u> The project is not located near any identified historic places or sacred/traditional sites that may be impacted for scientific, cultural or historic reasons.		
2. Is the project likely to have a significant effect on public health or public safety?	X	
<u>Explanation for Question 2:</u> The project will add additional radio coverage to our existing communications for the Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement in Greeley County as well as clear out traffic from our Valley County Communications to allow for a safer communications as well as state interoperability. This will not have any effect on public health.		
3. Is the project likely to have a significant impact on species or habitats protected by the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, or Magnuson-Steven Fishery Conservation and Management Act?		X
<u>Explanation for Question 3:</u> No significant impact is expected since the project is not located by any bodies of water and approximately 7 miles from the nearest river.		
4. Is the project likely to have a significant effect on a unique characteristic of the geographical area such as park land, prime farmland, wetland, floodplain, coastal zone or a wild and scenic river, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, or an ecologically critical area?		X
<u>Explanation for Question 4:</u> No significant impact is expected since the project is not located by any of the fore-mentioned except near farmland. It will be located at the corner of a field of cropland that is unusable due to terrain as well as being the corner of a center pivot that has not been usable.		
5. Is the project likely to violate a federal, state, or local law or administrative determination imposed for the protection of the environment? (e.g., local noise control ordinance, requirements for the control of hazardous or toxic substances)		X

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Question	Yes	No
<p><u>Explanation for Question 5:</u></p> <p>The project will comply with all local planning and zoning requirements that entails the process of meeting these specific requirements for state and local approval.</p>		
6. Is the project likely to have an effect on the quality of the human environment that is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity, likely to be highly uncertain, likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X
<p><u>Explanation for Question 6:</u></p> <p>None noted or identified to be on record at this point of project process.</p>		
7. Does the project involve the employment of new or unproven technology that is likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks, where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly uncertain, or where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity?		X
<p><u>Explanation for Question 7:</u></p> <p>The project is a proven practice for the construction and operation of public safety communications.</p>		
8. Will the project set a precedent that forecloses future options that may have significant effects?		X
<p><u>Explanation for Question 8:</u></p> <p>Nothing determined that could cause or have significant effects on future projects of this nature.</p>		
9. Is the project of significantly greater scope or size than normally experienced for a particular category of action?		X
<p><u>Explanation for Question 9:</u></p> <p>This project is similar to many that have been completed throughout the state.</p>		
10. Does the project have the potential for significant degradation of already existing poor environmental conditions? Also, does the project involve the initiation of a potentially significant environmental degrading influence, activity, or effect in areas not already significantly modified from their natural condition?		X

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Question	Yes	No
<p><u>Explanation for Question 10:</u></p> <p>The natural condition of the project site shall be maintained to the fullest to keep the environmental impacts to an acceptable level.</p>		



